

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01766 141429Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CU-02 BIB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 OIC-02

OMB-01 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 ERDE-00 /084 W

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P R 141406Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1376

INFO ALL CSCE CAPITALS 259

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USNMR SHAPE

USLO SACLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1766

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: REVISED SOVIET POSITION ON PRIOR NOTIFICATION
OF MANEUVERS

1. SOVIET DELEGATION HEAD (KOVALEV) TOLD COORDINATING
COMMITTEE MARCH 13 THAT SOVIETS WOULD BE PREPARED TO
ACCEPT NOTIFICATION OF NATIONAL AND MULTINATIONAL MAN-
EUVERS TO ALL CSCE PARTICIPATING STATES, PROVIDED
NOTIFICATION IS GIVEN ON A "VOLUNTARY AND RECIPROCAL"
BASIS. IN THIS CONNECTION KOVALEV CITED EXAMPLE OF
AGREED PHRASEOLOGY ON EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS, AND SAID
THAT IF "MAXIMALIST" PROPOSALS ON CBM'S COULD BE
WITHDRAWN, SUCH A VOLUNTARY COMMITMENT COULD OPEN THE
WAY TO A REALISTIC SOLUTION ON A MANEUVERS CBM.

2. ROMANIAN DEL HEAD IMMEDIATELY REPLIED THAT BASIC
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01766 141429Z

POSITION OF ROMANIA WAS THAT CBM'S SHOULD BE OBLI-

GATORY, NOT VOLUNTARY. ROMANIAN WAS GIVEN MILD SUPPORT BY THE NETHERLANDS, BUT MOST OTHER DELEGATES WHO SPOKE (INCLUDING US, UK, FRANCE, NORWAY, FRG, DENMARK, IRELAND AND ITALY) SAID KOVALEV STATEMENT WAS INTERESTING AND WELCOME.

3. IN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION AMONG NATO DEL HEADS, SEVERAL DELS (NORWAY, ITALY, NETHERLANDS) SUGGESTED THAT NATO GROUP SHOULD RESPOND IN KIND TO SOVIET MOVE PRIOR TO EASTER RECESS. NATO CBM'S CAUCUS WILL DISCUSS SOVIET INITIATIVE MONDAY, MARCH 17, AND NATO DEL HEADS WILL REVIEW SUBJECT AGAIN MARCH 18.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE CONVERSATION, SOVIET AMBASSADOR MENDELEVICH SAID HE HAD EXPLAINED SOVIET POSITION TO YUGOSLAV REP WHO REPLIED THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL WAS ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR SOLUTION TO MAN-EUVER CBM ISSUE. DALE

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